

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker, said cooking element comprising a tubular side wall (1) and a removable perforated bottom (2), the tubular side wall (1) presenting an interior shoulder (10) provided to receive the perforated bottom (2), ~~characterized in that the perforated bottom (2) comprises an openwork~~ comprising a plate (3) obtained by deformation of a metal sheet coated or not, said plate being provided with a plurality of perforations and having a center, wherein:

said plate has a food support surface provided with at least one depression elongated in a circumferential direction about said center, depressions being distributed across said plate such that in every radial section said perforated plate has at least one depression disposed transversely relative to said radial section;

said at least one depression has a bottom; and

each of said perforations is formed in the bottom of a respective depression.

2. (Original) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 1, characterized in that the tubular side wall (1) is made of a material different from the material of the openwork plate (3).

3. (Original) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 2, characterized in that the tubular side wall (1) is made of a transparent or translucent material.

4. (Original) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 3, characterized in that the tubular side wall (1) is made of plastic.

5. (Original) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 3, characterized in that the tubular side wall (1) is made of glass.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim ~~12~~24, characterized in that the ~~openworkperforated~~ plate (13) ~~is free of any annular peripheral edge and has a central zone (8) nearer to the center than to the edge of said openworkperforated plate (3), in that anyand every~~ straight line passing through said central zone (8) encounters at least one of said depressionseonformation ~~(30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36), at least one perforation (4) being provided in said conformation or in at least one (31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36) of said conformations.~~

8. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 7, characterized in that ~~any~~every straight line passing through said central zone (8) encounters on both sides of said central zone ~~(8) said conformation or at least one of said depressionseonformations (30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36).~~

9. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to ~~claim 6~~claim 24, characterized in that at least certain ones of the ~~eonformations~~depressions ~~(30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36)~~ are elongated.

10. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 9, characterized in that at least certain

ones of the elongated ~~depression~~se~~conformations~~ (30, 33, 34, 35) are arranged circumferentially.

11. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to ~~claim 10~~24, characterized in that at least two series of said elongated ~~conformations~~depressions (33, 34, 35) are arranged in an alternating manner.

12. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 11, characterized in that at least three series of said elongated ~~conformations~~depressions (33, 34, 35) are arranged in an alternating manner.

13-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to ~~claim 14~~claim 24, characterized in that each depression (6) contains at least one of the perforations (4).

16. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to ~~claim 14~~claim 24, characterized in that at least certain ones of the perforations (4) are elongated.

17. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 1, characterized in that at least two parts (5) each presenting a retaining strip (51) adapted to cooperate with a lower abutment (11) of the tubular side wall (1) are mounted on the ~~openwork~~perforated plate (3).

18. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 17, characterized in that the parts (5) come to be supported on the ~~openwork~~perforated plate (3) and present arms (52, 53, 54) engaged under the ~~openwork~~perforated plate (3).

19. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 17, characterized in that each part (5) is installed in a peripheral ~~depression~~notch (21) of the ~~openwork~~perforated plate (3).

20. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 17, characterized in that each part (5) has at least one recess (55) ~~in which~~and the ~~openwork~~perforated plate (3) ~~is deformed~~has at least one deformity that extends into said at least one recess to provide an anchor point.

21. (Currently amended) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 17, characterized in that the ~~openwork~~perforated plate (3) has at least one peripheral ~~enformation~~deformation (30) extending between said at least two parts (5) ~~the retaining strips (51)~~.

22. (Previously presented) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 17, characterized in that the perforated bottom (2) presents an elliptical geometry and in that it has two retaining strips (51) disposed in a diametrically opposed manner along the small diameter.

23. (New) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 1, characterized in that said perforated plate is composed of: a sheet of aluminum having a top surface coated with a non-stick surface layer, or a sheet of stainless steel.

24. (New) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 1, wherein said at least one depression comprises a plurality of depressions distributed over said food support surface.

25. (New) Cooking element for a steam cooker, said cooking element comprising a tubular side wall (1) and a removable perforated bottom (2), the tubular side wall (1) presenting an interior shoulder (10) provided to receive the perforated bottom (2), the perforated bottom (2) comprising a plate (3) obtained by deformation of a metal sheet coated or not, said plate being provided with a plurality of perforations and having a center, wherein:

said plate has a food support surface that is deformed to provide a plurality of depressions that add rigidity to said plate and that are distributed across said plate such that in every radial section said perforated plate has at least one depression disposed transversely relative to said radial section;

each of said depressions has a bottom; and

each of said perforations is formed in the bottom of a respective one of said depressions.

26. (New) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 25, wherein at least one of said depressions is elongated in a circumferential direction about said center.

27. (New) Cooking element for a steam cooker according to claim 25, wherein each of said depressions is elongated in a circumferential direction about said center.